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Paul L. Patterson, Jr.  
402 SS. Nile St.  
Aurora CO 80012

MAILED

JUN 02 2011

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 5,998,735 :  
Issue Date: December 7, 1999 :  
Application No. 09/128,614 : REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
Filed: August 3, 1998 :  
Title: Safety Device For An Electrical  
Outlet :  
:

This is in response to the renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.378(b), filed April 22, 2011, to accept the unavoidably delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

Although petitioner has provided the \$270 shortage, petitioner has failed to provide the \$400.00 required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.17(f).

If reconsideration of this decision is desired, a petition for reconsideration under 37 CFR 1.378(e) must be filed within TWO (2) MONTHS from the mail date of this decision. No extension of this 2-month time limit can be granted under 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b). **Any such petition for reconsideration must be accompanied by the petition fee of \$400 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(f).** The petition for reconsideration should include an exhaustive attempt to provide the lacking item(s) noted below, since, after a decision on the petition for reconsideration, the Director will undertake no further reconsideration or review of the matter.

A petition to accept the delayed payment of a maintenance fee under 35 USC 41(c) and 37 CFR 1.378(b) must be accompanied by (1) an adequate showing that the delay was unavoidable, since reasonable care was taken to insure that the maintenance fee would be paid timely, (2) payment of the appropriate maintenance fee, unless previously submitted, and (3) payment of the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(i)(1).

It should be noted the merits of petitioner's argument to establish unavoidable delay (item 1) have **not** been considered.

Further any renewed petition should include a letter seeking reconsideration with petitioner's name and signature.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By Mail:            Mail Stop PETITION  
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                          Alexandria, VA 22314

The centralized facsimile number is (571) 273-8300.

Telephone inquiries should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3215.



Charlema Grant  
Attorney  
Office of Petitions